

Volunteer Monitoring Survey

Please Return to:

Danielle Donkersloot

Division of Watershed Management

NJDEP

PO Box 418

Trenton, NJ 08625

Fax: 609-777-1282

Phone: 609-633-9241

Email: Danielle.Donkersloot@dep.state.nj.us

1. Group Name:

2. Group Type:

☐ Water Watch

☐ Watershed Association

☐ Lake Association

☐ Environmental Commission

☐ Non-profit or Local Environmental Group

☐ School/University

☐ County Government

☐ Other (please specify) _____

3. Address:

4. Primary contact name (and backup):

Email:

Phone:

Fax:

Backup contact:

Email:

Phone:

Fax:

5. Name of streams/rivers/lakes monitored: _____

Nearest road crossing: _____

Town: _____

County: _____

Location(park, preserve, etc.) _____

Watershed Area _____

*Add an extra sheet for other multiply sites

6. How do you use your data? (Check all that apply)

- ☐ Community Education and Awareness
- ☐ Baseline data collection
- ☐ Community and or watershed level assessment
- ☐ Local government
- ☐ State government
- ☐ Federal government
- ☐ Other: please explain: _____

7. What is the purpose for collecting the data? (Check all that apply)

- ☐ Promote stewardship
- ☐ Raise the level of understanding of watershed ecology
- ☐ Gain understanding of existing conditions and monitor change over time
- ☐ Screen for and identify problems and positive attributes
- ☐ Assess current conditions
- ☐ Track trends
- ☐ Source track down of nonpoint source pollution (NPS)
- ☐ Assess current conditions and impairments
- ☐ Supplement agency data collection
- ☐ Research
- ☐ Evaluate Best Management Practices (BMP) measures/Restoration Projects

8. How do you manage monitoring data now? (Check all that apply)

- ☐ Maintain paper files
- ☐ Maintain computer files/Database
- ☐ Other (please specify) _____

If computer files are kept what type of software do you use?

9. What types of monitoring does your group conduct and how often? (Check all that apply)

	Chemical	Biological	Visual
Hourly			
Daily			
Weekly			
Bi-monthly			

Monthly			
Seasonal			
Bi-annual			
Annual			
Other (specify)			

10. How long has your group been monitoring?

☐ Less than 1 year

☐ Between 2 to 5 years

☐ 5 + years

☐ other

11. Does your group have any recognition/certifications related to monitoring?
(Please explain)

12. How was your group trained?

☐ self taught

☐ training program name _____

☐ individual/group that provided training _____

13. How long ago was your group trained?

☐ < 1 year

☐ 1 to 4 years ago

☐ 4 or more years ago

☐ Continual training each year to volunteers

14. How many active volunteer monitors do you have?

15. What constraints do you have with data collection or analysis? Check all that apply, and explain nature of constraint.)

☐ lack of funding _____
☐ too few volunteers _____
☐ volunteers burnt out _____
☐ lack of access to good/safe sites _____
☐ poor data handling _____
☐ volunteer quality assurance/control _____
☐ other _____

16. Do you have a quality assurance project plan(QAPP)?

☐ yes (Please attach a copy?)
☐ if yes, approved by who (affiliation & name)
☐ no

18. Are you certified by the NJDEP?

☐ yes (certification number) _____
☐ no

19. What guide or model did you use to develop the QAPP?

☐ EPA guidance for developing a QAPP
☐ other (please specify) _____

20. What type of water quality parameters do you measure? (Check all that apply and specify method use.)

<input type="checkbox"/> dissolved oxygen	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> BOD	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> pH	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> alkalinity	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> coliform bacteria	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> water temperature	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> phosphorous/phosphate	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> turbidity/clarity	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> TSS/TDS	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> manganese	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> salinity/chlorides	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> hardness	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> benthic macroinvertebrates	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify parameters)	_____

*Attach sheet if necessary

23. What type of field sheet protocol do you use? Please attach a copy.
24. How often are volunteers evaluated for the quality of their data? By Whom?
Who evaluates: _____
___ Data sheets reviewed as they are received
___ Random site visits
___ semi-annual
___ annually
___ other (please specify) _____
25. Are you using a certified laboratory to analyze your samples?
___ yes (name of the laboratory) _____
___ no
26. For what parameters? Please list here:
27. If no, does someone analyze your samples?
___ volunteers use kits for field analysis
___ staff
___ other (please specify) _____
28. Did any group/organization/reference materials provide advice or other help in getting your program off the ground?
___ yes (please explain)

___ no
29. How is the program funded? (Check all that apply)
___ individual donations
___ foundation grants
___ corporate grants
___ state grants
___ federal grants
___ other sources (please specify) _____

30. Is there a long-term commitment of funding?
__yes
__no
31. What is the average annual cost of your volunteer monitoring efforts? (A rough estimate is sufficient.) _____
32. What advice/training help, if any, would be useful to your volunteers?
__visual assessment training
__biological assessment training
__species identification
__collection methods
__QAPP development help
__other _____
33. If NJDEP were to host a workshop on volunteer monitoring what topic would you like to see included? (please specify)
34. What are the best times (days of the week & hours) for you and your members to attend such a workshop?
35. Would you like to receive information about the NJDEP's volunteer monitoring program?
__yes
__no
36. If yes, how would you like to receive information?
__list server
__email
__paper copy (mail)
37. Would you and your members be interested in attending a Volunteer Monitoring Statewide Summit?
__yes
__no
38. May we contact you with any additional questions we may have?
__yes (if yes please specify best day and time) _____
__no

Thank you very much for helping us by answering this survey. We are very interested in hearing about what is going on with volunteer monitoring around the State.

If you have any questions or comments, please contact us and we can send you pre-paid postage to return survey.

Email: Danielle.Donkersloot@dep.state.nj.us

Phone: 609-633-9241